

Date: February 22, 2016

To: Authorized & Secondary Representatives of the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) – CCI, AR & FDCH

From: Community Nutrition Team

Subject: Two great WI Farm to Early Care and Education Opportunities...please share!

Read on to learn more about two opportunities to help grow farm to early care and education (farm to ECE) in Wisconsin. Farm to ECE offers access to healthy, local foods, gardening opportunities, and food-based activities to enhance the quality of the educational experience in all types of ECE settings including preschools, child care centers, family day care homes, Head Start, Early Head Start, afterschool programs, and programs in K-12 school districts.

1. Wisconsin Farm to Early Care and Education Call -- Wed. 3/9, 1-2pm

Join us in our first-ever WI Farm to ECE call. This presentation is open to anyone with an interest in bringing healthy, local food to Wisconsin's youngest eaters. View the [presentation](#) at <http://marketwisconsin.adobeconnect.com/farm-to-ece/>, join the [conversation](#) at 1-888-291-0312 with participant code 9472698, or do both! Questions? Contact Beth Hanna at beth@communitygroundworks.org.

2. Farm to Cafeteria Conference offering ECE scholarships

The National Farm to School Network is now accepting applications for scholarships to the 8th National Farm to Cafeteria Conference, which will take place in Madison, Wis., June 2-4, 2016. This event is the top national training and networking event for farm to cafeteria professionals working to improve community health, build economic opportunities for farmers and producers, and ensure long-term sustainability for local food efforts nationwide. To ensure the conference reflects the full diversity of the movement, scholarships are prioritized for farmers, farmer support organizations, youth (through age 22), persons of color, food service professionals, farm to college/hospital practitioners, and [early care and education providers](#). Don't delay! Learn more and submit your application at farmtocafeteriaconference.org now until the [deadline of Feb. 29 at 5pm ET](#). All providers and other ECE support people should be sure to check the ECE box to be considered for the scholarship.

If you are interested in starting a Farm to Early Care and Education program, please feel free to contact our Farm to Early Care and Education Specialist with questions, and visit our Farm to ECE webpage: <http://dpi.wi.gov/community-nutrition/cacfp/farm-2-ece> which contains many great resources. We also love sharing your success stories in our quarterly newsletter, so make sure to call or email Megan with exciting updates on your Farm to ECE program! Email: Megan.LeClair@dpi.wi.gov, Phone: 608-267-9122

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